

Epidemiological study of traffic injuries in children admitted in Fatemi hospital, Ardebil

Background: Trauma is the leading cause of child mortality in developing countries and the most common cause of trauma is motor-vehicle related accident. In this study, medical records of all children under 15 years admitted to the emergency department in Fatemi hospital during the 1391 to 1394 were studied, data from patients

Methods: questionnaire which contains information about the type of trauma, sex, age, anatomical location of the damage, length of stay and mortality rate were collected. To investigate the use of seat belts, front passenger and rear, the cultural level of the family and vehicle type was recorded in the patient questionnaires.

Results: From a total of 263 children that visited at the emergency departments because of motor-vehicle related accident, 4/65% were male and 6/34 % were female The musculoskeletal injuries included foot% (7/39), head and neck (% 5/28), multiple trauma (% 5/12), Hand (% 3/11), chest (6%) and abdomen organs (2%). The injuries from motorcycles hitting pedestrians and, car-pedestrian accidents was higher than the rest. 48% of victims at the time of the accident aboard the vehicle and 52% were pedestrians.

No significant differences were seen regarding the settlement of the child in the car, type of trauma, in urban and residential areas with the Riding on vehicle and pedestrian injuries. Pride,

Peugeot Family Group, roa, peykan, Samand, Nissan, Pickups, motorcycle and Rest of the car respectively had the highest roles in accidents. More parents of the victims were high school graduates or academic Degree. 67% of injuries seating ride on car, was in the rear cabin. Accident rate was higher in urban areas than outside residential areas. The results of this study show that, unfortunately, the use of safety belts among the victims of the accident was very low (3, 4/2%).

Conclusions: Children who are walking more vulnerable than children who are riding the vehicle, therefore it is important that parents are more careful on their children when walking in the streets. Unfortunately, the use of safety belts among the victims of the accident is very low and it is necessary to pay more attention to parents for using a child seat in the car.

Keywords: Child; Traffic; motor-vehicle related accident truma